



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

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November 23, 2011

The Honorable Max Baucus
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baucus:

Thank you for introducing SA 1276 as an amendment to S. 1867 that would establish a pilot program for military members to obtain civilian licensing and credentialing as part of their specialized military training in selected occupational fields.

With unemployment among our talented and trained veteran population at unacceptably high levels, more needs to be done to ease the transition of our military members into civilian occupations that can fully utilize their extensive active duty training and experience. State licensing and credentialing requirements can effectively block a veteran from employment in an occupation specialty that the veteran has already been mastered while on active duty. Allowing military members to obtain civilian licensure and credentials after their initial military job training would enable these members to exit the military not only trained and experienced but fully licensed in a state where they will seek employment.

NGAUS strongly supports SA 1276 as an amendment to S. 1867 that would establish a pilot program for our military members in selected occupation fields to obtain civilian licensing and credentialing while still serving. This would not only increase the confidence levels of these members while they are serving but would help pave a more certain path to employment when they exit the military in states where they are already licensed in their occupational fields.

Our men and women who bravely serve our nation should be allowed to put their professional skill sets to work in the civilian community as soon as possible after leaving the military. Thank you again for your efforts

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus Hargett", written in a cursive style.

Gus Hargett
Major General, USA, (Ret)
President